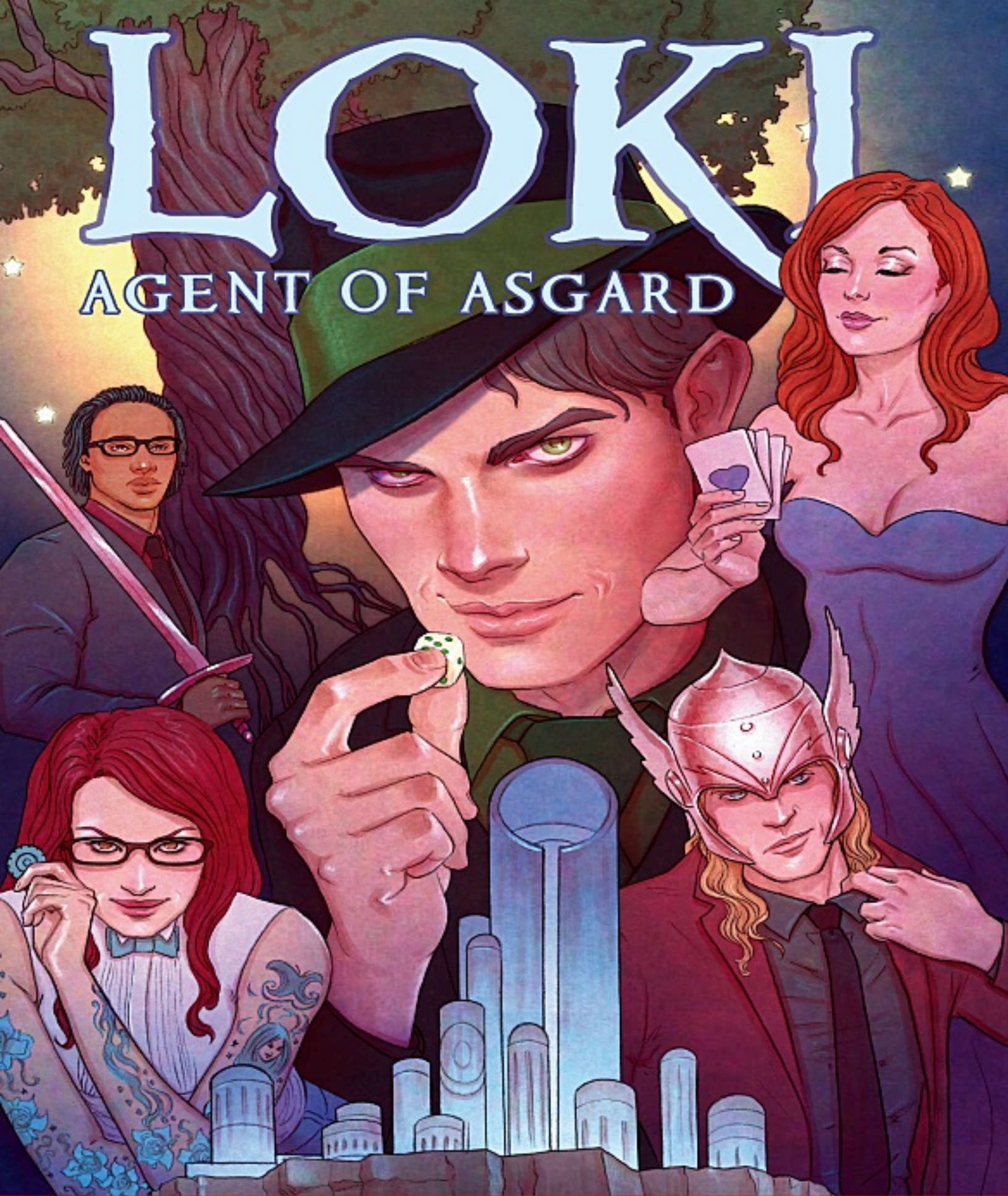


LOKI

AGENT OF ASGARD



THIS IS THE STORY OF LOKI.

LOKI, WHO WORKED FOR THE ALL-MOTHER AS THEIR AGENT. THE AGREEMENT WAS SIMPLE – FOR EACH MISSION THE TRICKSTER COMPLETED, ONE CRIME FROM HIS PAST WAS ERASED FROM HISTORY AND MEMORY. IN THIS WAY, HE HOPED TO ESCAPE THE PULL OF HIS OLD STORY. HE HOPED TO CHANGE.

LATELY, LOKI WAS TASKED WITH RETURNING ERRANT ASGARDIANS HOME – MOST RECENTLY SIGURD, THE EVER-GLORIOUS. THUS, SIGURD WAS WRAPPED IN CHAINS OF HELLFIRE AND CAST INTO ASGARDIA'S DUNGEONS – SEEMINGLY FOR THE CRIME OF WALKING THE WORLD. 'T WAS A DEED THAT SAT ILL ON LOKI'S SHOULDERS.

SO HE CALLED HIS OWN AGENTS TOGETHER. LORELEI, THE TRICKSTER WHO ESCAPED THE ALL-MOTHER WITH LOKI'S HELP. THOR, LOKI'S BROTHER AND GOD OF THUNDER. AND VERITY WILLIS, A HUMAN WITH THE POWER – OR CURSE – TO SEE THROUGH ANY LIE, NO MATTER ITS FORM. TOGETHER, THEY PLANNED TO DEFY THE ALL-MOTHER'S WILL AND STORM THE DUNGEONS OF ASGARDIA.

BUT THERE WAS ANOTHER LOKI.

AN OLDER LOKI, SEEMINGLY IMPRISONED BY THE ALL-MOTHER, BUT ABLE TO WALK THROUGH TIME AT WILL, DEFYING ALL LIMITS PLACED ON HIM. A LOKI POWERFUL ENOUGH TO CREATE THE SWORD GRAM – THE SWORD OF TRUTH – THROUGH FOUL MACHINATIONS IN ASGARD'S DISTANT PAST. AND TO SEE IT FALL INTO THE YOUNGER LOKI'S HANDS IN THE PRESENT.

SOON NOW, THESE TWO WOULD FACE EACH OTHER AT LAST. AND THE ONLY WINNER...

...WOULD BE THE AGENT OF ASGARD.

LOKI & LORELEI.
WORKING WITHOUT A NET.

YOU
JUST
COULDN'T
RESIST,
COULD
YOU?

**LEE
GARRETT**
artist

**AL
EWING**
writer

**NOLAN
WOODARD**
color artist

**VC'S CLAYTON
COWLES**
letterer

**JENNY
FRISON**
cover artist

**JON
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asst. editor

**LAUREN
SANKOVITCH
& WIL MOSS**
editors

AXEL ALONSO
editor in chief

JOE QUESADA
chief creative officer

DAN BUCKLEY
publisher

ALAN FINE
exec. producer

THIS MISSION WILL SELF-DESTRUCT IN FIVE SECONDS

SO, I KNOW
MOST OF THE
PLAN--

BREAKING
INTO THE
MOST SECURE
CELL IN
ASGARDIA?

--TO RESCUE
SIGURD, RIGHT--
BUT HOW ARE WE
GETTING PAST
HEIMDALL?

ASGARDIA.
HOVERING OVER
PRE-ROXXON BROXTON.*

*HEY, THAT RHYMES! ALSO, THIS STORY
TAKES PLACE BEFORE CURRENT EVENTS
IN THOR: GOD OF THUNDER, -WIL

"I MEAN, HE MIGHT
NOT BE ABLE TO
SEE ME, SINCE I
OPTED OUT OF THE
LAST RAGNAROK...
BUT HE'LL SEE YOU
COMING--"

"AT NEARLY TWO HUNDRED
FEET PER SECOND?
HE'LL HAVE TO BE QUICK.

"WHICH REMINDS
ME-- WHY DON'T WE
NEED PARACHUTES,
AGAIN?"

OBSTACLE ONE:
HEIMDALL, WATCHMAN
OF THE GODS.

I TOLD
YOU TO
TRUST
ME...

HA
HA.


ANYWAY,
AT THIS
SPEED,
HEIMDALL
ONLY HAS AN
INSTANT TO
NOTICE
US.

"WHICH HE WILL,
OF COURSE.

"UNLESS..."

"...WE GIVE HIM
SOMETHING ELSE
TO LOOK AT."

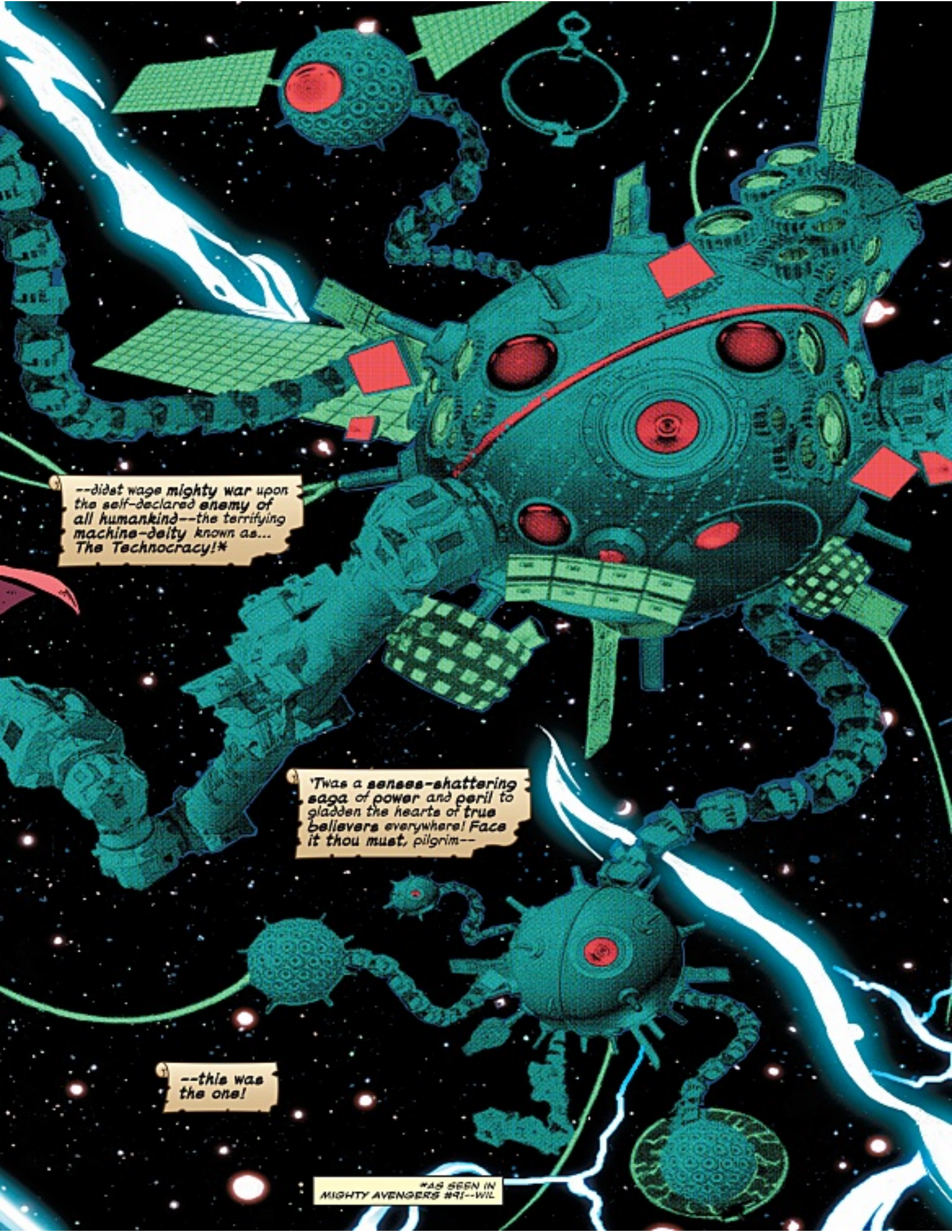
OD'S
BLOOD...

A full-page comic book illustration of Thor in space. Thor is depicted in his classic Asgardian armor, including a winged helmet and a red cape. He is holding the hilt of Mjolnir in his right hand, with blue lightning bolts emanating from it. He is floating in the void of space, with the Earth's blue and white horizon visible at the bottom. A large, grey, cratered moon is positioned to the left of Thor. In the upper right corner, a green, spherical alien spacecraft with a red circular window and several protruding antennae is visible. The background is a deep black space filled with numerous white stars.

And lo!

There came a day of righteous battle--a day to etch forever in the scrolls of noble Asgard!

The day that Thor, God of Thunder--scion of kings, founder of Avengers, protector of Midgard--



--didst wage mighty war upon
the self-declared enemy of
all humankind--the terrifying
machine-deity known as...
The Technocracy!*

'Twas a sense-shattering
saga of power and peril to
gladden the hearts of true
believers everywhere! Face
it thou must, pilgrim--

--this was
the one!

*AS SEEN IN
MIGHTY AVENGERS #91--WIL

EARLIER...

...I LIKE
THIS NOT,
LOKI.

IT'S
THE PERFECT
DISTRACTION.
AN INCOMING
MENACE THAT LOOKS
SPECTACULAR BUT
POSES NO REAL
THREAT.

ALL YOU
HAVE TO DO
IS GO OUT TO
MEET IT.

STILL, IF
YOU'D RATHER
IRON MAN GOT
ALL THE
GLORY...

THERE IS
NO GLORY
IN THIS...
SNEAKING.

AND TO ALLY WITH
THE SORCERESS
LORELEI...

THE
WRONGS
SHE DID ME ARE
DIFFICULT TO
FORGIVE,
BROTHER.

OH?

AS
DIFFICULT
AS MY
OWN?

MORESO.
YOU ARE NOT
THE LOKI WHO
WRONGED
ME.

NO, NO,
OF COURSE
NOT.

AND IF YOU
DISAGREE WITH
THE ALL-MOTHER, YOU
SHOULD CONFRONT
THEM DIRECTLY.

THEY MUST
SURELY HAVE
GOOD REASONS
FOR IMPRISONING
SIGURD--

IF YOU
BELIEVE THAT, I
HAVE A RAINBOW
BRIDGE TO
SELL YOU.

LOOK, I'LL
MAKE THIS
SIMPLE:

REMEMBER WHEN
I SAVED YOU FROM
BECOMING THE
GOD OF ANGER,
BOORISHNESS AND
MISOGYNY?*

YES...

THEN YOU
REMEMBER
YOU OWE
ME.

*IN LOKI: AGA #1, -WIL



I
REMEMBER,
BROTHER.

AND
WHEN NEXT
WE MEET...

...WE WILL
DISCUSS
WHAT YOU
NOW OWE
ME.



TRULY,
THIS IS
THE SON
OF ODIN...



LORELEI--
NOW WOULD
BE A VERY
GOOD TIME
TO--

I TOLD
YOU.

TRUST
ME.

**CHARM OF LIQUID
SOLIDS.** FRESH FROM
THE QUANTUM-
FORGES OF THE
MATTER-SMITHS
OF NIDAVELLIR.



FWASSHHH



EEPI!



THE
SPELL--



--DRAINS--



--momentum--



--GIVING
US A NICE
SOFT LANDING IN
THE DEEPEST
DUNGEONS OF
ASGARDIA.

PAUSE FOR
APPLAUSE...



FIVE
STARS.
"WOULD SOIL
MYSELF
AGAIN."

A LITTLE
WARNING
NEXT
TIME?

I DON'T
THINK SO.
HEARING YOU
SQUEAL WAS
THE FUN
PART.

STRANGE
HOW THERE
AREN'T ANY
GUARDS...



MAKES
PERFECT
SENSE.

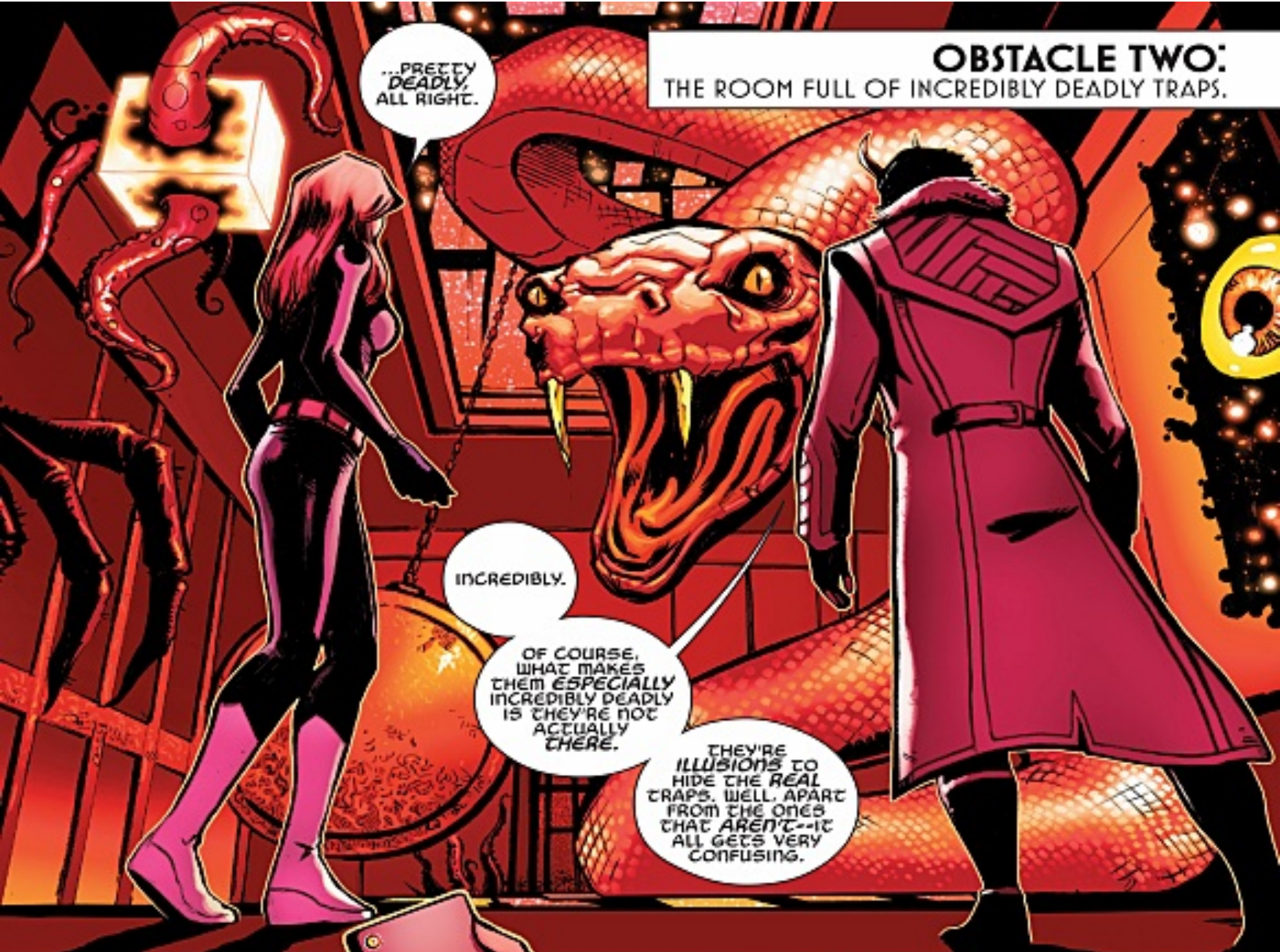
ANY GUARDS
WANDERING
AROUND WOULD
GET HORRIBLY
MURDERED BY
THE ROOM FULL
OF INCREDIBLY
DEADLY
TRAPS.

WAIT--
WHICH ROOM
FULL OF
INCREDIBLY
DEADLY
TRAPS?



THIS ROOM FULL
OF INCREDIBLY
DEADLY TRAPS.

AH...



...PRETTY DEADLY. ALL RIGHT.

OBSTACLE TWO:
THE ROOM FULL OF INCREDIBLY DEADLY TRAPS.

INCREDIBLY.

OF COURSE, WHAT MAKES THEM *ESPECIALLY* INCREDIBLY DEADLY IS THEY'RE NOT ACTUALLY THERE.

THEY'RE ILLUSIONS TO HIDE THE REAL TRAPS. WELL, APART FROM THE ONES THAT AREN'T--IT ALL GETS VERY CONFUSING.



FORTUNATELY, THANKS TO THIS MORTAL GADGET...

...AND A MINOR SPELL OF CELLPHONE RECEPTION...

...WE HAVE HELP.



READY ON YOUR END, VERITY?

NOT REMOTELY.

WELL, TECHNICALLY, YOU ARE ACTUALLY DOING THIS REMO--

SHUT UP.

VERITY WILLIS.
CAN SEE THROUGH ANY LIE.
ILLUSIONS A SPECIALTY.

OKAY, WHEN I GIVE THE WORD, I'M GOING TO NEED YOU TO RUN FORWARD IN A DIRECT STRAIGHT LINE--DO EXACTLY AS I SAY--

--AND TRY VERY, VERY HARD NOT TO DIE.



PRETTY PLEASE.



GO!

WATCH OUT FOR THE SPIKE TRAPS! THEY'RE REAL!

AAAH! DUCK YOUR HEADS!

VEER RIGHT! RIGHT!



YOUR OTHER RIGHT, LOKI!

OKAY, GET READY TO JUMP...NOW! AGAIN!

NOW SPRINT--RUN FOR IT--



...AAAAND I'M GOING TO QUIETLY HAVE A HEART ATTACK NOW.

LIGHTWEIGHT.

MUCH OBLIGED, VERITY. I OWE YOU DINNER.

ANYWAY, THAT TAKES US TO THE THIRD AND FINAL OBSTACLE OF OUR QUEST...

OBSTACLE THREE: THE URU GATE OF IMPREGNABILITY.



IMPOSSIBLE TO OPEN FROM THE OUTSIDE-- UNLESS YOU HAVE THE KEY, WHICH IS UNSTEALABLE-- I'VE TRIED.

SO CHANGE INTO A FLY AND BUZZ THROUGH THE KEYHOLE. PROBLEM SOLVED.



NOT THAT SIMPLE, THESE DAYS. CHANGING MY SHAPE IS... NOT WITHOUT COST.

I SEEM TO REMEMBER--

OH, I CAN TURN INTO MYSELF. THAT'S NO PROBLEM.

I CAN TURN INTO ANYTHING, AS LONG AS IT'S ME.



BUT I'M JUST NOT A "TINY, BUZZING INSECT" SORT OF PERSON.

ALSO, THE DOOR'S PROTECTED BY MAGIC AND I'D GET ZAPPED.

NEXT TIME, LEAD WITH THAT, SHOW-OFF.

SO... HOW DO WE OPEN THE DOOR?



WE DON'T.





SO WHAT ARE YOU--ACTUALLY, YOU KNOW WHAT? NEVER MIND.

WHATEVER GAME YOU'RE PLAYING, LAUFHEYSON--



--I'M CASHING OUT.

AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, YOU PAID ME TO GET SIGURD OUT OF HERE--

--AND YOU PAID ME TO GET YOU TWO IN.



JOB DONE ON BOTH COUNTS. TIME TO GO HOME.

YOU SAID IT.

OR, YOU KNOW, MY PLACE. I'VE GOT MIRRORED CEILINGS...



FAIR ENOUGH, I SUPPOSE.

LET ME KNOW IF YOU NEED ANY MORE READY CASH. THOUGH, THERE'S ALWAYS ANOTHER JOB.



IF I NEED MONEY, I'LL STEAL IT.

MAYBE FROM YOU.

LATER, LOKI. KEEP MY SWORD WARM.

AND HEY, GOOD LUCK WITH THE HEIST.



IT'S NOT A HEIST.

IT'S A MISSION.



A FACT-FINDING
MISSION.

THE ALL-MOTHER
HAS BEEN ACTING
STRANGELY EVER SINCE
THAT BUSINESS IN
AVENGERS TOWER.
I WANT TO KNOW WHY.

AND IF YOU HAVE
SOMEWHERE TOTALLY
IMPREGNABLE--WELL,
YOU'D PROBABLY KEEP
YOUR PRISONERS THERE.

BUT WHAT
YOU'LL REALLY
WANT TO KEEP
LOCKED AWAY...



...ARE YOUR
SECRETS.

LET'S
SEE WHAT'S
BEHIND DOOR
NUMBER
ONE...



"X" MARKS THE SPOT.
INTERESTING.

BUT NOT QUITE WHAT
I'M LOOKING FOR.



WHICH MEANS THERE'S
GOT TO BE AN EVEN
MORE SECURE CELL
AROUND HERE SOMEWH--

OH HO.



VERY
NICE.

"WHEN
IS A DOOR
NOT A
DOOR?"



KRR-RRKKK



EASY.

WHEN
IT'S A
JAR.

SURPRISE.



OLD LOKI.
THE LOKI WHO BURNED.



I...

I HAD MY SUSPICIONS.

LIAR.

YOU NEVER SUSPECTED. YOU ONLY HOPED.

YOU HOPED SO HARD...



"BOO HOO HOO! I'M NOT THE BADDIE! I'M JUST A COPY!"

HOPING TO WASH THE BLOOD OFF YOUR HANDS AND ONTO MINE...

"I CAN CHAAANGE!"



...WELL, APART FROM THE INNOCENT CHILD-SELF YOU SLEW IN MY NAME--

AND THERE'S MORE BLOOD WHERE THAT CAME FROM.

OH, PLEASE, YOU WOULDN'T DARE--



OH?

WHO'S THE LIAR NOW?

no--



NO! OH, I'M MELTING, I'M MELTING!

WHO WOULD HAVE THOUGHT... A GOOD LITTLE GIRL LIKE YOU COULD DESTROY MY BEAUTIFUL WICKEDNESS...?



HA HA HA HAAA!

REALLY? YOU REALLY THOUGHT THAT WOULD WORK?



BUT GRAM-- THE SWORD OF TRUTH--

--SHOWS YOU THE TRUTHS YOU HIDE FROM YOURSELF. YOU THINK I HIDE, LITTLE LOKI?

I'M NOT THE FOOL WHO THINKS HE CAN EVER BE ANYTHING NEW. I KNOW WHAT I AM.

AND I LOVE IT.



BUT LET'S DISCUSS YOUR SILLY LITTLE SWORD.

WHEN I SAW YOU USE IT ON THOR...DO YOU KNOW WHAT I DID?

I CREATED IT.


no...



YES!

I SAW THE EFFECT AND THEN BUILT THE CAUSE! I SAW THE STORY AND WROTE THE ORIGIN!

THAT'S WHO I AM!



I MADE THIS SWORD!
I MADE IT FROM TIME
AND BLOOD AND STORY--
FOR THIS MOMENT!
FOR THE MOMENT
OF TRUTH!

no,
no, no--

YES! THE
TRUTH IS IN
MY HEART! I
CANNOT LIE--
EVEN BY
ACCIDENT!

YOU THINK
I'M THE LOKI
THAT WAS? DOLT!
SIMPLETON!
I AM WHAT
WILL BE!

I AM THE
DESTINY YOU
RUN FROM-- BUT
WILL NEVER ESCAPE!
BECAUSE NOBODY
ELSE WANTS
YOU TO!

I
AM KING
LOKI!

I AM YOUR
FUTURE!

I AM
YOU!

...AND I AM
DREADFULLY
PRONE TO
HISTRIONICS.
DO EXCUSE
ME.

I'M
BURNING,
YOU SEE.
FOREVER
AND EVER
BURNING.

YOU'LL
UNDERSTAND
WHEN YOU'RE
MY AGE.



LOKI.

YOU
SHOULDN'T HAVE
COME HERE.

WINTER IS
A HARD THING
TO SEE
COMING.

STILL, YOU
HAVE PERFORMED
US A SERVICE. WE
WERE WONDERING
HOW TO TEST THE
OLD ONE'S
PROPHECIES.

WE THOUGHT
TO *DISPROVE*
THEM, BY PREVENTING
TODAY'S MEETING OF
LORELEI AND SIGURD...
THUS *SPARING* THEM
THEIR FINAL, AWFUL
TRAGEDY...



THE SWORD
OF TRUTH WAS SO
OBVIOUS A SOLUTION,
IT NEVER CROSSED
OUR MINDS.

SO
THEN, OLD
ONE:

THE
TRUTH.

THE TRUTH
OF THE DAYS
TO COME IS
AS I ALWAYS
CLAIMED...

PARADISE.



ASGARD WILL BE RULED
BY THE WISE AND NOBLE
KING THOR, WHO WILL IN
HIS REIGN TEACH ALL THE
NINE REALMS TO UNITE
IN HARMONY.

I REMAIN THE RECURRING
VILLAIN, ALWAYS SCHEMING.
ALWAYS BEATEN WITH NO
HARM DONE...BUT I
MUCH PREFER THAT
TO, SAY...

...AN ARROW IN
THE FACE.

IN FACT,
MY ONE DESIRE
IS TO BRING THE
FUTURE ON AS
SWIFTLY AS
POSSIBLE...



...AND MIDGARD,
KING OF
TRICKSTERS?
HOW DOES THAT
FARE IN YOUR
NINE REALMS?

'T WAS
GOVERNED
MOST
PERFECTLY,
MY LADY.

BY MY
RECKONING.

MOTHER...





LOKI'S
APARTMENT.
LATER.



DAMN
YOU ALL.



DAMN
ME.

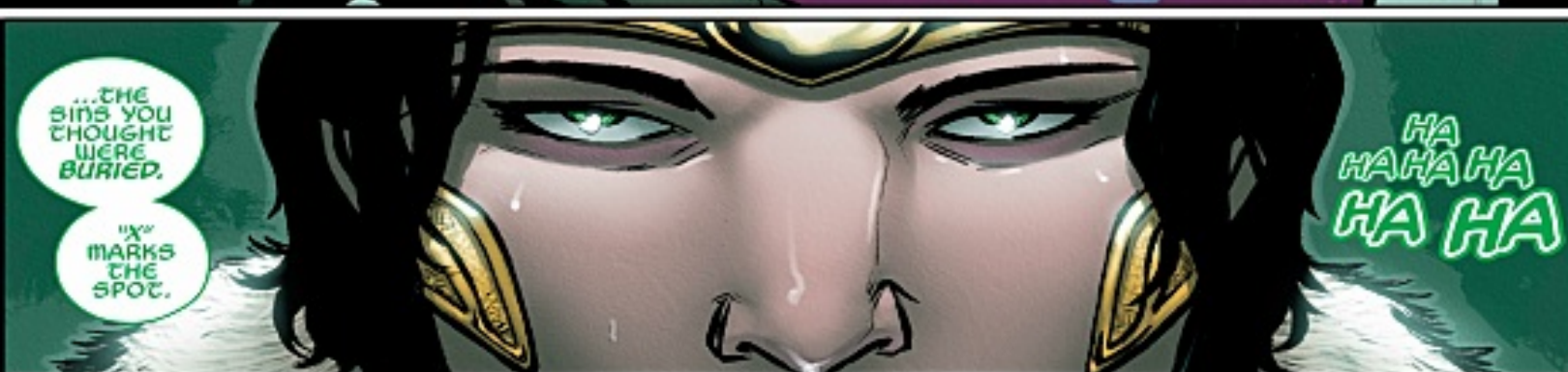
AND DAMN
YOU, YOU
WRINKLED
OLD--



LANGUAGE.

AND AS
FOR WRINKLES...
YOU'LL GET SOME
SOON. WORRY
LINES.

BAD TIMES
ARE COMING,
LITTLE LOKI.
JUDGMENTS
FOR PAST
SINS...



...THE
SINS YOU
THOUGHT
WERE
BURIED.

"X"
MARKS
THE
SPOT.

HA
HAHAHA
HA HA

NEXT: ORIGINAL SIN

HERE'S LOKI-ING AT YOU

Send letters to MHEROES@MARVEL.COM.

Don't forget to mark "OKAY TO PRINT!"

Welcome to this month's "Here's Loki-Ing At You," back on paper once again. Unless you're reading this on some kind of tablet. Will it be the last "Here's Loki-Ing At You," though? Read on and find out.

Dear Marvel and the authors and artists and everyone involved in **LOKI: AGENT OF ASGARD**,

Thank you for making a comic book about my favorite Avenger. (Yes, I know Loki isn't an Avenger, but he helped assemble them by being the bad guy, so I'm sticking with it.) The opening pages were AMAZING (I literally DIED from fangirling). I think it's nice that the bad guy finally gets some appreciation. I do have a question: was he reborn into a mortal, or an Asgardian child?

One thing for sure, he was rather hot, but not in a One Direction way. Ew... I don't like ID. (Why am I telling Marvel this?) Anyway, I like the way everything was drawn. (Kudos Lee Garbett!) I also love his clothes, always looking FABULOUS! I hope I get to see him in his frost-giant form.

Another thing I like is how you keep his snarky yet funny side, clearly displayed in the first book. I am happy with this series and I'm planning on renewing my subscription every year.

Thanks for being so awesome!!!!
Shelby Rayner

Thanks for the kind words! To answer your question – as far as I know, he was reincarnated as an Asgardian. He might not have known he was one at first, though.

Welcome to Lok's Smoke! Intriguing. Let's look at our title. Loki. Mischief. Magic. Smoke! Brilliant. Can we trust him? Can we trust anything he says, or is he just blowing smoke up our Asgardian chimneys? Awesome. For a letters-column, this is the best title submitted! Why wouldn't we choose the best, because Marvel letters ARE the best! We get questions, comments, gripes, everything!

To quote a great man, our readers, "speak on the pompatus of love." That's right! Love for their comics! Is this a bunch of hot air? No, smoke. On a more serious note, this title is better than the alternative: Loki's Smokies. That sounds like something you might get at an Asgardian barbeque. Still good, but in a different way!

Dennis Lahteenmaa
Toronto, ON

I like the sales pitch! But not the title. It sounds a little too close to an Asgardian tobacconist. Still, thanks for the suggestion, Dennis!

Dear Team Loki,

I bought the first issue with high hopes and I was not disappointed! You've managed to capture and expand on what Loki-ites love, and the output is fantastic! Now you might have mentioned it, but in case I missed it somewhere, what is Odin doing during the events of this series? He was always one of my

more favorite Thor characters and would love to see his role in this new story line. But if he died or something I must have missed that, and that would stink because I feel that Odin has plenty of potential for the MU!

Wes A.
Davison, MI

Odin, after the cataclysmic events of **FEAR ITSELF**, took his evil brother Cul the Serpent to the abandoned remains of Asgard-space and sealed the gateway behind them so he could keep a watch on Cul for eternity. That was the plan, anyway – whether it'll pan out like that is another matter.

Dear Al and Lee,

Thanks for another fun issue. It just so happens that a character who feels like a monster, has a complex relationship of love, anger and rebellion with his family, a chronic susceptibility to using manipulation to achieve his goals and yet seeks to do good is apparently what I've been waiting for for 54 years. Thanks ever so. I love that among its other virtues Lee's art is as witty as the script; great teamwork. So I'll be sticking around then.

Now that everyone's reassured, onto silly names for letter columns: (guns were requested) 'Letters Pray', 'Divine Writes', 'Royal Male' (too UK centric?), 'Heir Mail' with a line struck through 'Heir', 'Newsagent of Asgard' and my fave pun- 'Prints of Lies'. There are a few other non-punning titles that I'm going to inflict on you, there's 'Sweet Little Lies' which would be the Kieron Gillen memorial lettercol title as it would have its own soundtrack, but ironically it would be AOR, 'Okey-dokey, Loki!', anime style 'Doki Doki Loki' and my actual favorite, 'Swear to God'.

Oh yes, as much as I enjoy the fun, I'll be disappointed if breaking our hearts wasn't part of your job description.

Best,
David Morris
Bristol

Well, we had to have a winner eventually, and "Newsagent of Asgard" just tickled me where I live. So starting next time, that's what this lettercol will be.

As for broken hearts – hopefully everyone's heart took a knock this issue. There's more where that came from.

Dear Loki writer,

Fantastic work on the latest adventure for the God of Tricks. I like the direction being taken, choosing to let Loki forge his own trail for his own interests. Being named Loki myself I have taken extreme interest in all forms of the deity, from mythology and history to comics and movies (Both Tom Hiddleston's and Jim Carrey's but not that really bad one with Jamie Kennedy. I don't consider that to be an actual form of Loki.) and just wanted to let you know that this iteration of Loki is one of the best. Keep up the good work.

Sincerely,
Loki Hendorf
Midgard

Thank you, Loki! It's nice to know we make the cut when it comes to representing the God of Mischief. I suppose having two versions to choose from in one comic helps... although now that they've met, it might not be too long before there's only one left. If you catch my drift.

Anyway, that's our lot for this month! Until next time – keep it Loki!

-Al Ewing

NEXT: LOKI: AGENT OF ASGARD will return in September, but in the meantime, join Al, Lee, Jason Aaron and Simone Bianchi for the most important story to hit Asgard in centuries: **ORIGINAL SIN: THOR & LOKI - THE TENTH REALM!** This five-issue miniseries reveals the secret existence of both the Tenth Realm (wonder if it has anything to do with that map Loki saw in this issue?) and...Thor and Loki's sister!?! Do NOT miss this one, folks!



**ORIGINAL SIN: THOR & LOKI - THE TENTH REALM #1
ON SALE!**



ZEN